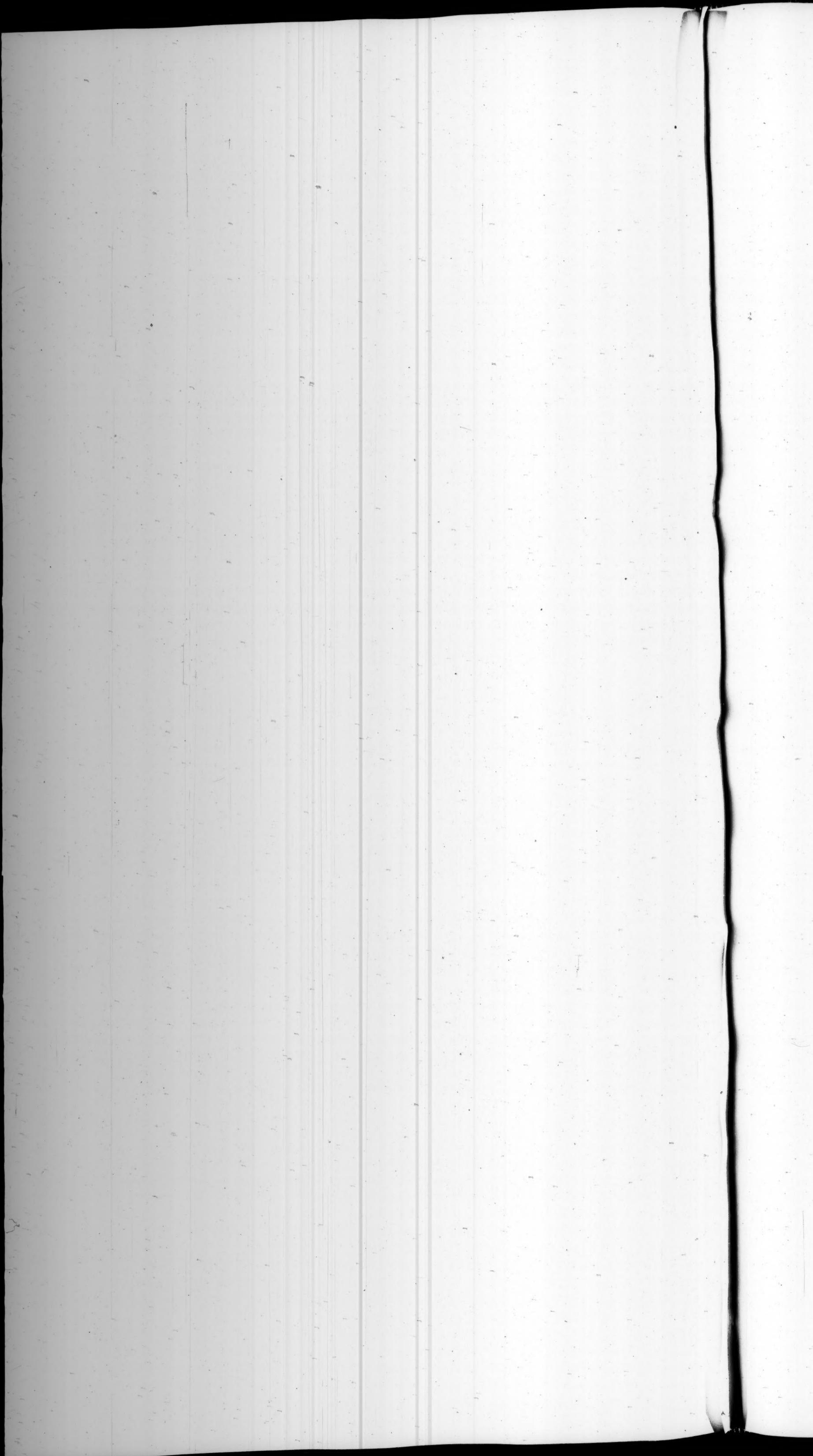


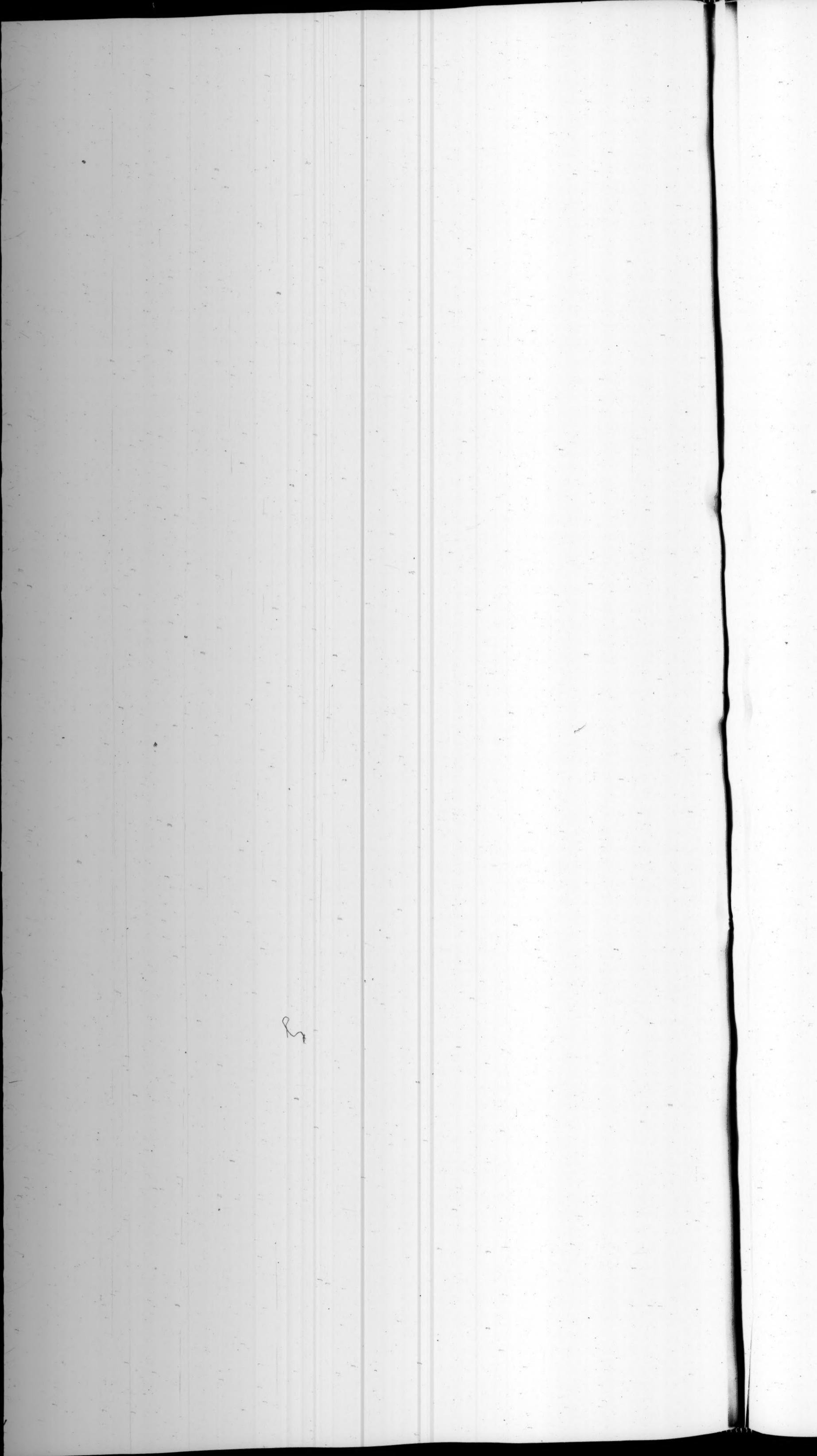


Ane by the grace of God Quene of England, Fraunce
and Ireland, defendor of the faith, & of the Church of Englande, &
also of Irelande vnder Christ in earth the supreme head. To al our
most louing, faithfull, and obedient subiects, and to every of them
greeting. Wher our mooste dere cousin Edwarde the vi. late King of
Englande, Fraunce and Irelande, defendor of the faith, and in
earth the supreme head vnder Christ of the Church of Englande
and Irelande, by his letters patentes signed with his owne hand,
and sealed with his great seale of Englande, bearing date the xxi. day of June, in the viii. yere of his
reigne, in the presence of the most parte of his nobles, his counsailours, Judges, and diuerse others
graue, and sage personages for the profite and suretie of the whole realme therto assenting, and sub-
scribing their names to the same, hath by the same his Lettres Patentes recited, that forasmuch as
the Imperiall crowne of this realme, by an Acte made in the xxxv. yere of the reigne of the late King
of woorthy memory King Henrie the viii. our progenitour, and great uncle, was for lacke of issue of
his bodie lawfullie begotten, and for lacke of issue of the bodie of our saide late cosin King Edwarde
the vi. by the same act limited, and appointed to remaine to the Ladie Marie, by the name of the la-
die Marie his eldest Daughter, and to the Heires of her bodie lawfullie begotten, and for de-
fault of such issue, the remainder therof to the Ladie Elizabeth, by the name of the Ladie Elizabeth
his seconde Daughter, and to the heires of her bodie lawfullie begotten, with such condicions, as
shoulde be limited, and appointed by the saied late King of woorthisie memorie, King Henrie theight
our progenitour, and great uncle by his letters patentes vnder his great Seale, or by his last wil in
writing signed with his hande. And forasmuch as the saied limitation of Thimperiall crowne of this
realme, being limited (as is aforesaid) to the said Ladie Marie, and Ladie Elizabeth being illegiti-
mate, and not lawfullie begotten, for that that the mariage had betwene the saied late King, King
Henrie theight our progenitour, and great uncle, and the Ladie Katherine mother to the saied La-
die Marie, & also the mariage had betwene the saied late king, King Henrie theight our progenitor
and great uncle, and the ladie Anne mother to the saied ladie Elizabeth, were cleerely, and lawfully
vndone by sentences of deuorces, according to the woerde of God, and the Ecclesiasticall lawes: And
which saied several deuorcements haue beene severally ratified, & confirmed by auctorite of parla-
ment, and especiallie in the xxviii. yere of the reigne of King Henrie theight our said progenitor, and
great uncle, remaining in force, strength, and effect, wherby aswel the said Ladie Marie, as also the
said Ladie Elizabeth, to all ententes, and purposes, are, and been cleerely disabled, to aske, claime, or
challenge the saied Imperiall crowne, or any other of the honours, castelles, manours, Lordshippes,
lands, tenements, or other hereditaments, as heire, or heires to our said late cosin king Edward the
vi. or as heire, or heires to any other person, or persons whosoeuer, aswel for the cause before rehear-
sed, as also for that that the said Lady Marie, and Lady Elizabeth were vnto our saied late cosin
but of the hulse bloud, and therfore by the ancient lawes, statutes, and customes of this realme be
not inheritable vnto our saied late Cosin, although they had beene borne in lawfull Matrimonie,
as in dede they were not, as by the saied sentences of deuorce, and the saied Statute of the xxviii. yere
of the reigne of King Henrie the eight our said progenitor and great uncle, plainly appeareth.

And forasmuch also as it is to be thought, or at the least, much to be doubted, that if the saied la-



die Marie, or ladie Elizabeth shold hereafter haue, & enjoy the said Imperiall crowne of this realme and shold then happen to marry with any Stranger borne out of this realme, that then the same Stranger hauing the gouernmente and the Imperiall crowne in his handes, would adhere and practise, not onely to bring this noble free realme, into the tirannie and seruitude of the Bishoppe of Rome, but also to haue the lawes and customes of his or their own natvie countrey or countreyes to be practised, and put in vse within this realme, rather then the lawes, statutes, and customes here of long time vsed, wherupon the title of inheritance of all and singular the subiects of this realme dooe depend, to the peril of conscience, and the vtter subuersion of the common weale of this realme wherupon our saied late dere cosin weighing and considering with himselfe, what waies and meanees were most conuenient to be had for the stay of the said succession in the saied Imperiall crowne, if it shold please God to call our said late cosin out of this transitory life, hauing no issue of his body, and calling to his remembrance that wee and the Lady Katherine, and the Lady Mary our sisters, being the daughters of the lady Fraunces our naturall mother, and then and yet wife to our naturall & most louing father Henrie Duke of Suffolke, and the lady Margaret, daughter of the lady Elianour then deceased sister to the said lady Fraunces, and the late wife of our cosin Henrie Erle of Cumberland, were very nigh of his graces bloud, of the part of his fathers side our said progenitor and great uncle, and being naturally borne here within the realme, and for the very gcod opinion our said late cosin had of our, and our said sisters and cosin Margarets good education, did therefore vpon good deliberation and aduise heerein had and taken, by his said Letters Patents declare, ordre, assigne, limit, and appoint, that if it shold fortune himselfe our said late cosin king Edward the sirt to decease, hauing no issue of his body lawfully begotten, that then the said Imperiall crowne of England and Ireland, and the confines of the same, and his title to the crowne of the realme of France, and all and singular honors, castles, prerogatiues, priuiledges, preheminences, auctorities, iurisdictions, dominions, possessions, and hereditaments to our said late cosin King Edward the sirt, or to the said Imperiall crowne belonging, or in any wise appertaining, shold for lacke of such issue of his body remain, come, and be vnto the eldest sonne of the body of the said lady Fraunces lawfully begotten, being borne into the world in his life time, and to the heires males of the body of the same eldest sonne lawfully begotten, and so from sonne to sonne, as he shold be of auncienty in birth, of the body of the said lady Fraunces lawfully begotten, being borne into the world in our said late cosins life time, and to the heires males of the body of euery such sonne lawfully begotten: and for default of such sonne borne into the world in his life time, of the body of the said lady Fraunces lawfully begotten, and for lacke of heires males of euery such sonne lawfully begotten, that then the sayd Imperiall crowne, and all & singular other the premisshes shold remain, come, and be to vs, by the name of the lady Jane, eldest daughter of the said lady Fraunces, & to the heires males of our body lawfully begotten, and for lacke of such heire male of our body lawfully begotten, that then the sayd Imperiall crowne, and all other the premisshes shold remain, come, & be to the said lady Katherine our sayd second sister, and to the heires males of the body of the sayd lady Katherine lawfully begotten, with diuerse other remainders, as by the same letters patents more plainly & at large it may and doeth appere. Sithens the making of which letters patents, that is to say, on Thursday, which was the vi. day of this instant moneth of July, it hath pleased God to cal to his infinite mercy our sayd most dere & entirely beloued cosin Edward the vi. whose soule God pardon, & forasmuch as he is now deceased, hauing no heires of his body begotten, & that also there remaineth at this present time no heires lawfully begotten of the body of our sayd progenitor, and great uncle king Henrie the eight, and forasmuch also as the sayd lady Fraunces our sayd mother,



had no issue male begotten of her body, and borne into the worlde, in the life time of our said souerain King Edward the sixth, so as the saied Imperiall crowne, and other the premisses to the same belouing, or in any wise appertayning, now be, and remaine to vs in our actuall, and roiall possession, by auctorite of the sayd letters patent: wee doe therefore by these presentes signifie vnto all our most louing, faithfull, and obedient subiects, that like as we so; our part shall, by Goddes grace, shew our selfe almost gracious, and benigne Souuereine Queene, and Lady to all our good subiects in all their iust, and lawfull suites, and causes, and to the vttermost of our power shal prescrive and maintaine Gods most holy word, christian policy, and the good laws, customes, and liberties etc. these our realmes & dominions: So we mistrust not, but they, and every of them wil againe for their partes, at all times, and in all cases shew themselves vnto vs their naturall liege Queene, and Lady, most saythfull, louing, and obedient subiects, according to their bounden dutyes, and allegiaunces, whereby they shall please God, and doe the thing that shall tend to their own preservacions, and sureties: Willing, and commanding all men of all estates, degrees, and condicions, to see our peace, and accord kept, and to bee obedient to our Lawes, as they tender our fauor, and will answeare for the contrary, at their extreme perils. In witnes whereof, wee haue caused these our letters to bee made patents. Witnesse our selfe at our Towre of London, the tenth day of Julie, in the first yeere of our reigne.

God save the Queene.

*Londini in actibus Richardi Graff
Regis a typographi excusione.
Anno Domini M.D.LII.
Cum privilegio ad imprimendam solam.*